



# TradeStats Express™ Help System

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## Overview

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TradeStats Express displays the latest annual U.S. merchandise trade statistics —

- At national and state levels.
- In maps, graphs, and tables.
- As exports, imports, and trade balances.
- Custom-tailored to your year and dollar ranges and display preferences.

It is divided into two main sections: National Trade Data and State Export Data. For each section, the basic tools (for example, choosing product classifications, downloading the data, seeing a print preview) are the same. The links at left will help you use these tools.

The **National Trade Data** are available as full year totals for 1989 through 2004 and Year-To-Current-Quarter for 2004 and 2005. "Year-To-Current-Quarter" is defined as January 1 through the last day of the most recent quarter in the system. ( March 31, June 30, September 30 or December 31 for the specified year). Data are available for individual countries, trade/economic groups, or geographic regions. You can tabulate these statistics using any of three product classification systems: HS (at two- and four-digit levels), NAICS (up to the four-digit level), or SITC (up to the three-digit level). You can choose to display the data for exports, imports, or balance of trade.

The National Trade Data section offers two options:

- Global Patterns of U.S. Merchandise Trade, which displays (1) a world map showing export patterns from the U.S. and (2) a table sortable by trade partner or by individual year data.
- Product Profiles of U.S. Merchandise Trade with a Selected Market, which displays (1) a chart showing major U.S. exports to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exported product or by individual year data.

The **State Export Data** are available as full year totals for 1999 through 2004 and Year-To-Current-Quarter for 2004 and 2005. "Year-To-Current-Quarter" is defined as January 1 through the last day of the most recent quarter in the system. ( March 31, June 30, September 30 or December 31 for the specified year). Data are available for individual states or U.S. regions. Products are classified in industry groups corresponding to NAICS two-digit codes.

State Export Data section offers three options:

- Global Patterns of a State's Exports, which displays (1) a world map showing export patterns from a state or U.S. region and (2) a table sortable by trade partner or by individual year data.
- State-by-State Exports to a Selected Market, which displays (1) a U.S. map showing states exporting a product to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exporting state or by individual year data.
- Export Product Profile to a Selected Market, which displays (1) a pie chart showing major exports from a state to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exported product or by individual year data.

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The **State Export Data** are available as full year totals for 1999 through 2004 and Year-To-Current-Quarter for 2004 and 2005. "Year-To-Current-Quarter" is defined as January 1 through the last day of the most recent quarter in the system. ( March 31, June 30, September 30 or December 31 for the specified year). Data are available for individual states or U.S. regions. Products are classified in industry groups corresponding to NAICS two-digit codes.

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- Global Patterns of a State's Exports, which displays (1) a world map showing export patterns from a state or U.S. region and (2) a table sortable by trade partner or by individual year data.
- State-by-State Exports to a Selected Market, which displays (1) a U.S. map showing states exporting a product to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exporting state or by individual year data.
- Export Product Profile to a Selected Market, which displays (1) a pie chart showing major exports from a state to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exported product or by individual year data.



### Data Maps

TSE uses maps to display data on exports from the U.S., individual states, and U.S. regions. You can customize your map display using a number of options:

- Exporting state or region, exported product, and trade partner (not all options are available for all maps; read more details in the help file "[Map Data Options](#)").
- Dollar amount, dollar change, or percent change.
- Data year or years. With dollar change or percent change options, you specify a range.
- Display style: Choose from two contrast levels, three color schemes, grayscale, or black and white.
- Number of data ranges.
- Details of a table showing all the data underlying the map.

When your map and table appear, you can:

- Change the display to show imports, exports, or balance of trade.
- Print or download the map, its legend, and the corresponding data table.
- Zoom in or out on the map, move the map around to display the desired region, and see country or state labels.
- Sort the data table on different years, and toggle between ascending and descending values.
- Submit a new data query.

Read more details in the help files "[Understanding Map Results](#)" and "[Navigating the Map](#)."

### Trade Partner Maps

In "Product Profiles of U.S. Merchandise Trade with a Selected Market," "[State] Export Product Profile to a Selected Market," and "State-by-State Exports to a Selected Market," which allow you to specify an export market (one country, a geographic region, or a trade/economic region), you can also display a map and a list of the countries in a specific region using the "Locate Trade Partner" button. Once you have brought up the "Locate" window, you can use it to

- Display other countries or regions.
- Click on a country's name in the list to display a more detailed map of it and see a list of the trade and geographic regions that include it.

## Map Data Options

TSE uses maps to display data in these areas:

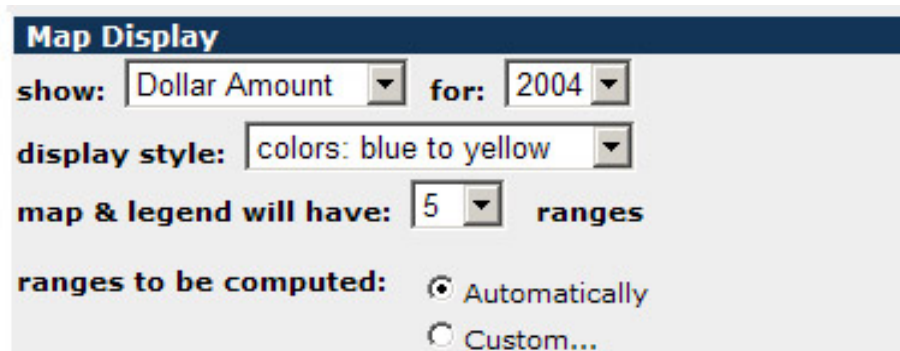
- Global Patterns of U.S. Merchandise Trade - exports from the U.S. as a whole
- Global Patterns of a State's Exports - exports from individual states, exports from U.S. regions
- State-by-State Exports to a Selected Market - exports from individual states

Depending on the map display you are working with, you can specify exporting state or region, exported product, trade partner, and data table display.

You can choose to display the data for exports, imports, or balance of trade. (You can toggle among the three of these once the map and data table are displayed.)

When working with state export data, you can choose a product from an aggregated list. When working with national trade data, you can select a product from one of three classification systems: HS (at two- and four-digit levels), NAICS (up to the four-digit level), or SITC (up to the three-digit level). See the [Glossary](#) for more details on these data series.

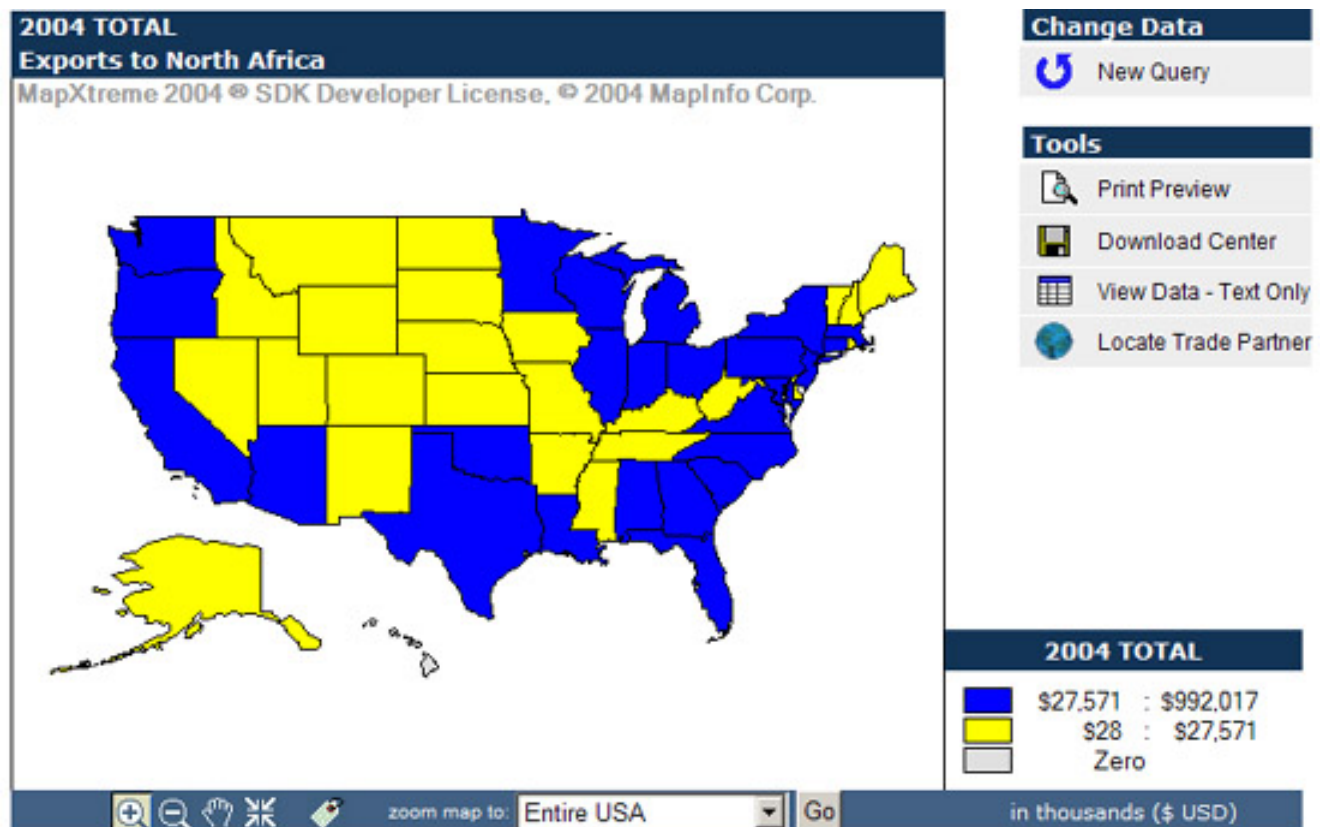
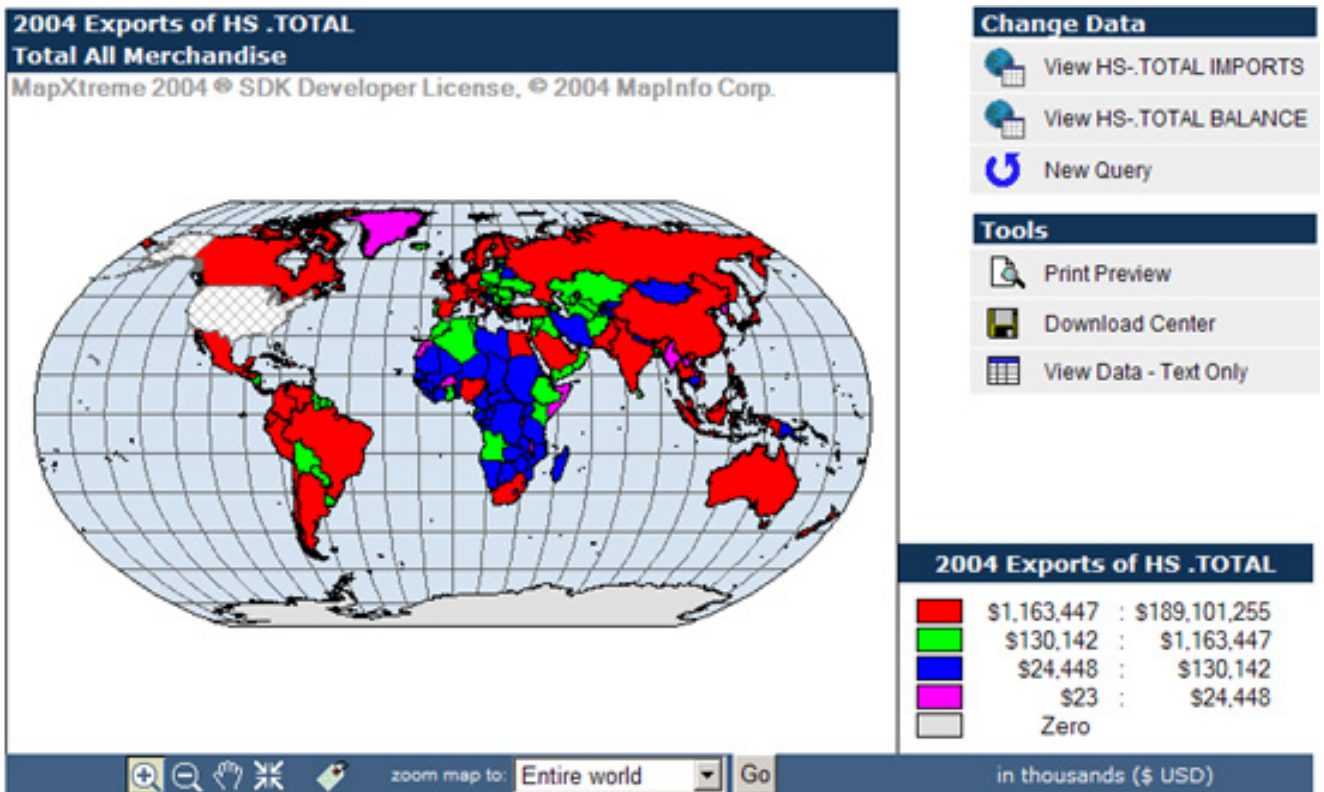
You can customize map displays using these menu options:



The screenshot shows a 'Map Display' configuration window with the following options:

- show:** Dollar Amount (dropdown)
- for:** 2004 (dropdown)
- display style:** colors: blue to yellow (dropdown)
- map & legend will have:** 5 (dropdown) ranges
- ranges to be computed:** ☒ Automatically, ☐ Custom...

- Dollar amount, dollar change, or percent change.
- Data year or years. With dollar change or percent change options, you specify a range.
- Display style: Choose from two contrast levels, three color schemes, grayscale, or black and white.
- Number of data ranges, from 3 to 10. One of the ranges will always be zero. If you select 5, for example, the data will be divided into four ranges plus zero, and the map and legend will display accordingly after you hit the "submit" button. In the samples below, the world map is sorted into 5 ranges, the U.S. map into 3.
- Ranges to be computed. Countries (or states) are divided into ranges, based on their associated data value. In the samples below, each range is shown with a unique color. Automatically computed ranges will be created by the TSE system. Using custom range computation will allow the user to set the minimum and maximum values associated with each range. (also see the help files "[Custom Map Ranges](#)").



You can customize the table display using these menu options:

- Years of data displayed.
- How the data are sorted; ascending or descending based on your chosen year. Once the map and table



appear, you can re-sort on any year.

- How many records (i.e., products, countries, states, or regions) the table should display.
- Show quarterly data (quarterly data is only for current year to recent quarter versus the same time period of the year prior. In the sample below, the column titled "2005 thru June" is displaying data from January 1, 2005 through June 30, 2005)

When your map and table appear, you can:

- Change the display to show imports, exports, or balance of trade.
- Print or download the map, its legend, and the corresponding data table (also see the help files "[Printing](#)" and "[Downloading](#)").
- Zoom in or out on the map, move the map around to display the desired region, and show country or state labels.
- Sort the data table on different years, and toggle between ascending and descending values. (The sample below is sorted by 2003 value, descending, and in the real window could be scrolled down to see more countries.)
- Submit a new data query.

Exports of NAICS 3312 in thousands (\$ USD)							
Partner	2000	2001	2002	2003 ▾	2004	2004 thru June	2005 thru June
World Total	339,617	341,741	320,197	313,218	431,653	175,581	194,962
Canada	149,152	144,401	140,861	134,157	167,013	82,947	89,528
Mexico	73,088	80,838	84,552	80,693	70,923	35,632	36,260
United Kingdom	17,366	16,925	10,912	8,681	11,596	5,478	6,834
South Korea	1,627	2,202	4,353	8,390	9,922	4,432	2,501
Germany	6,012	7,803	6,554	8,253	7,054	3,203	5,266
Ireland	7,045	6,715	9,891	6,522	7,900	3,017	3,224
Hong Kong	4,549	7,054	4,762	6,179	8,764	5,158	2,702
Belgium	5,154	3,577	3,743	5,471	7,008	2,944	3,404
Brazil	6,088	6,408	4,947	4,817	8,164	7,798	7,886

Read more details in the help files "[Understanding Map Results](#)" and "[Navigating the Map](#)."

## NOTES

**1. Specific data are only available through the data tables. The maps are not interactive tools for retrieving information.**

**2. Maps show general groupings only. The legends will show the same number used as the lower end of one range and the upper end of the next highest range. Use the data tables to determine precise export values.**

## Custom Map Ranges

TSE allows users to define their own map ranges when creating thematic maps. By choosing the "Custom..." option to compute ranges, a new pop-up window displays (shown below). You may add or delete ranges. You may not have fewer than 3 or more than 10 ranges.

Each range will display the

- range number
- minimum value for that range
- maximum value for that range
- count of records (countries or states) currently in that range
- the percent of all records represented by that range

A "Data Legend" table displays showing the high and low values for all data, as well as the total number of records.

The "Not found within range" row will show how many records are unassigned, or have not been placed into a range.

In the example below range 1 goes from 2,000 to 40,000. If you changed the Min value to 20,000 there is a chance that some data (whos values are between 0 and 2,000) are now not in any range. TSE will warn you of this, but let you proceed with those settings. On the map, those data will fall into an "All Others" range.

Be aware, this may be misleading to viewers of the map; a user may make an incorrect interpretation of the map because they did not realize that some countries/states fell into an "All Others" range.



Range	Min (\$)	Max (\$)	Count	Percent
0	40000	11681654.074	53	23%
1	2000	40000	46	20%
2	0	2000	11	5%
3	-500000	-100	57	25%
4	-161977969.484	-500000	61	27%
Not found within ranges			0	0%

Data Legend	
Max:	\$11,681,654.07
Min:	-\$161,977,969.48
Count:	228

Recalculate

Click the **Save Ranges** button to use these ranges in your map.

Click the **Cancel** button to return to the map input options, without applying the custom ranges.

## Understanding Map Results

Once you have selected all your map parameters (see the help file "[Map Data Options](#)" for more details) and hit "Submit," you'll get a [map display with legend](#), a [data table](#), and several sets of [tools](#).

### Map and Legend

The maps give a visual overview of trade, but they are not a precise breakdown, nor an interactive tool for retrieving information. A map will show ranges of export dollar values (or, with national data, import or trade balance dollar values) from the U.S. or a state/region to various world markets. Some maps will show the exports of a chosen product group. Depending on how many ranges you chose, the total exports will be broken up and displayed in a distinct series of colors or patterns. The legend shows how these are divided and displayed on the map.

One of the ranges is always zero, so that states, regions or markets without the relevant trade can be shown. Sometimes a map will show nothing in this range, though zero will still appear in the legend. NOTE: The legends will show the same number used as the lower end of one range and the upper end of the next highest range. Specific data are only available through the data tables.

You can zoom in or out on the map to see more detail (see "[Navigating the Map](#)").

### Data Table

The table displays the the dollar values for products, exporting states or trade partners for the years you specified. You can sort the data by any year, descending or ascending. These tables can be printed or downloaded using the Print Preview tool or the Download Center tool.

### Tools

The "Change Data" tools let you toggle between exports, imports, and balance of trade, and enable you to start over with a new query.

The "Print Preview" tool lets you preview the map and legend or the data table, and then print them from your browser. See the help file "[Printing](#)" for more details.

The "Download Center" tool gives you options to save the map, its legend, or the data (in CSV format), or all three in a compressed file. See the help file "[Downloading](#)" for more details.

The "View Data - Text Only" tool lets you view the table data in a pop-up window, in a straight HTML table, with no coloring, scrolling, formatting, CSS or Javascript.

The map navigation tools let you work directly with the map (see the help file "[Navigating the Map](#)" for more details on this group of tools).









## Navigating the Map

Once you have created a map, you may need to navigate to get a better look at it.

Below the map is a toolbar which contains several tools that will help you work with the map.



	Zoom In	Single click and map will recenter at point of click and display 1/2 the number of miles previously displayed. Click and drag to draw a box. When mouse button is released, map will redisplay showing contents of box.
	Zoom Out	Click and map will recenter at mouse click and display twice as many miles across.
	Reposition	Click and drag to move map. When button is released, map will redraw .
	Recenter	At click, map will recenter.
	Labels	At click, labels toggle on and off for countries, states, and bodies of water.
	Quick Zoom	Select an area and click "Go"button. Map will redraw centered on the chosen area.

## Working With Charts

TSE uses charts to display data on exports from the U.S., individual states, and U.S. regions. You can customize your chart display using a number of options:

- Exporting state or region, trade partner, and exported product (not all options are available for all charts; read more details in the help file "[Chart Data Options](#)").
- Data year.
- Display style..
- Details of a table showing all the data underlying the chart.

When your chart and table appear, you can:

- Change the display to show imports, exports, or balance of trade.
- Print or download the chart, its legend, and the corresponding data table.
- Sort the data table on different years, and toggle between ascending and descending values.
- Submit a new data query.

Read more details in the help file "[Understanding Chart Results](#)."

## Chart Data Options

TSE uses charts to display data in these areas:

- Export Product Profile to a Selected Market - exports from states or U.S. regions to a specified trade partner
- Product Profiles of U.S. Merchandise Trade with a Selected Market - exports of specified products from the U.S. as a whole to specified partners

When working with national data, you can choose to display the data for exports, imports, or balance of trade. (You can toggle among the three of these once the chart and data table are displayed.) You can also choose a product from one of three classification systems: HS (at two-digit level), NAICS (up to the three-digit level), or SITC (up to the two-digit level). See the [Glossary](#) for more details on these data series.

When working with state data, you can choose the exporting state or U.S. region.

Working with both national and state data, you can customize chart displays using these menu options:

**Trade Partner**

☐ Individual countries  
☒ Geographic regions  
☐ Trading & economic regions

World ▼ [?](#)

**Chart Display**

chart year: 2004 ▼  
 display style: colors: normal contrast ▼  
 chart & legend will have at most: 5 ▼ wedges / bars

**Table Display**

display years: 1997 ▼ to: 2004 ▼  
 compute additional data: None ▼

sort by: 2004 ▼ descending ▼  
 display: all ▼ records

☐ Display through latest quarter 2005

Go

- Trade partner - a country, geographic region (such as Middle East, Caribbean), or a trade/ economic region (such as FTAA, EU).
- Data year (1999-2004 for state data; 1989-2004 for national data).
- Display style - Choose from two color schemes, grayscale, or black and white with patterns.
- Number of segments in which the total will be divided for display.



## 2003 Export from Alabama to Peru



Product	Value (\$)	Percent
Chemical Manufactures	3,697,114	34.6 %
Crop Production	3,009,653	28.2 %
Paper Products	810,011	7.6 %
Computers & Electronic Prod.	406,310	3.8 %
All Others	2,751,224	25.8 %
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10,674,321</b>	<b>100 %</b>

You can customize the table display using these menu options:

- Year of data displayed in the chart.
- An optional measure of dollar change or percentage change across a chosen range of years.
- How the data are sorted; ascending or descending based on your chosen year. Once the chart and table appear, you can re-sort on any year.
- How many records (i.e., products, countries, states, or regions) the table should display.
- Display year-to-current-quarter data for current year and same time period for prior year.

When your chart and table appear, you can:

- For national data, change the display to show imports, exports, or balance of trade.
- Print or download the chart, its legend, and the corresponding data table (also see the help files "[Printing](#)" and "[Downloading](#)").
- Sort the data table on different years, and toggle between ascending and descending values. (The sample below is sorted by 2003 value, descending, and in the real window could be scrolled down to see more countries.)
- Submit a new data query.

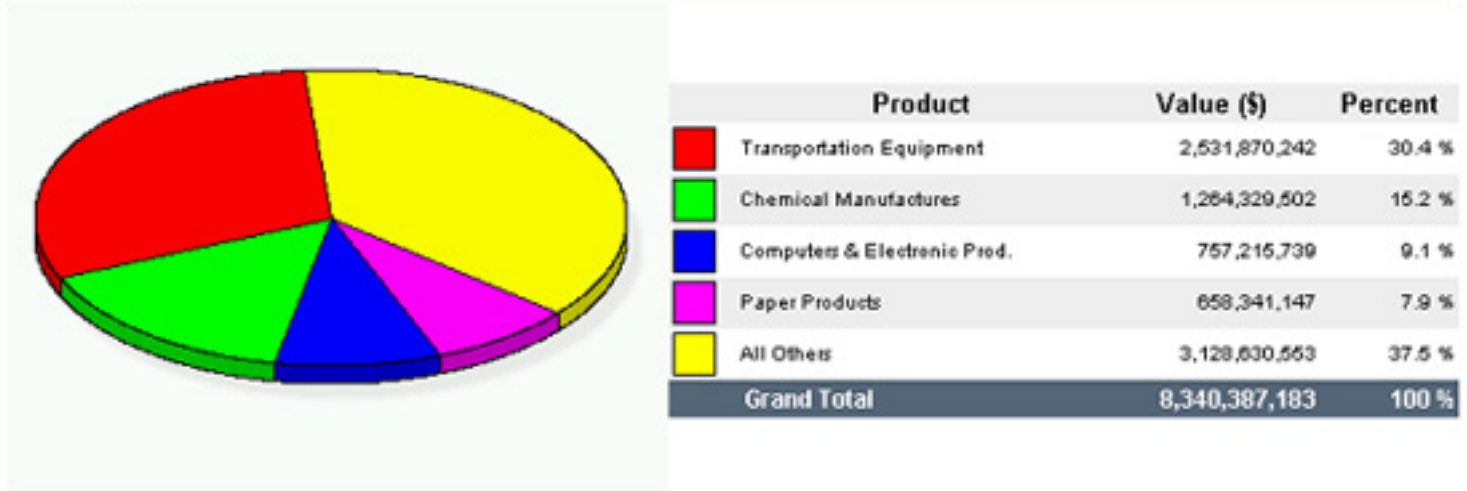
NAICS 322 - PAPER - Imports from European Union 25 (EU 25) in thousands (\$ USD)				
Item	2001	2002	2003 ▾	2004
<b>Total</b>	226,546,645	232,643,340	253,029,476	282,560,178
3254--PHARMACEUTICALS & MEDICINES	26,264,898	32,315,095	38,397,249	41,574,063
3361--MOTOR VEHICLES	23,380,018	26,529,267	30,954,525	32,030,195
3364--AEROSPACE PRODUCTS & PARTS	17,974,704	14,237,010	11,700,665	11,982,676
3251--BASIC CHEMICALS	9,508,037	9,506,950	11,033,755	12,335,465
3345--NAVIGATIONAL/MEASURING/MEDICAL/CONTROL INSTRUMENT	7,426,923	8,000,106	9,395,974	10,883,331
3363--MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS	6,138,879	7,042,976	8,250,218	8,706,767
3339--OTHER GENERAL PURPOSE MACHINERY	7,775,491	7,263,614	8,244,808	9,768,936
9800--GOODS RET TO CA (EXP); US GOODS RET & REIMPS (IMP)	8,922,392	8,878,624	7,986,091	7,970,559
3399--MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED COMMODITIES	6,627,194	6,743,119	6,906,174	6,906,059

Read more details in the help file "[Understanding Chart Results.](#)"

## Understanding Chart Results

Once you have selected all your chart parameters (see the help file "[Chart Data Options](#)" for more details) and hit "Submit," you'll get a [chart display with legend](#), a [data table](#), and a set of [tools](#).

2003 Export from Alabama to World



Export from Alabama to World in thousands (\$ USD)

Item	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003 ▾
<b>Product Total</b>	6,192,431	7,317,040	7,570,360	8,266,884	8,340,387
336 Transportation Equipment	1,500,617	1,573,646	1,905,359	2,462,589	2,531,870
325 Chemical Manufactures	824,970	1,118,406	1,200,454	1,317,668	1,264,330
334 Computers & Electronic Prod.	879,625	1,043,913	861,613	918,947	757,216
322 Paper Products	569,484	711,572	613,185	633,616	658,341
315 Apparel Manufactures	255,059	342,200	321,126	306,365	489,341
333 Machinery Manufactures	293,790	321,989	352,277	361,051	463,039
111 Crop Production	210,421	200,465	356,164	341,073	405,264
331 Primary Metal Manufactures	228,693	257,103	245,299	309,044	305,383
326 Plastic & Rubber Products	209,904	223,687	210,419	200,584	215,516

### Chart and Legend

The charts give a visual overview of trade, but they are not an interactive tool for retrieving information. A chart and its legend will show dollar values and percent of total for exports (or, with national data, imports or trade balance) of products.

For instance, in the example above, the chart shows that Alabama exported some \$8.3 billion in manufactured goods to the world in 2003. Transportation equipment accounted for \$2.5 billion of this, or 30.4%. The next three largest export categories for that year from Alabama are shown, and all other products accounted for 37.5%. If the user had specified more wedges (up to seven), more products' shares would be displayed. The data table will, however, show a further breakdown of products.

### Data Table

The table displays the the dollar values for products for the years you specified. It will also show the dollar change or percentage change for a year range if you have selected this additional computation. You can sort the data by any year, descending or ascending, or by the dollar or percentage change . These tables can be printed or downloaded using the Print Preview tool or the Download Center tool.

## **Tools**

The "Change Data" tools let you toggle between exports, imports, and balance of trade (national data only), and enable you to start over with a new query.

The "Print Preview" tool lets you preview the chart and its legend or the data table, and then print them from your browser. See the help file "[Printing](#)" for more details.

The "Download Center" tool gives you options to save the chart or the data (in CSV format), or both in a compressed file. See the help file "[Downloading](#)" for more details.

The "View Data - Text Only" tool lets you view the table data in a pop-up window, in a straight HTML table, with no coloring, scrolling, formatting, CSS or Javascript.

## Printing

The Print Preview tool (see also "[Understanding Map Results](#)" and "[Understanding Chart Results](#)") opens a new window that allows you to easily print the results of your work with TradeStats Express.

You can choose to view only the map/chart and its legend, only the data table, or everything. You can then print the display you have chosen.

Click on the "Close Window" link to close the print preview window.

Click on the "Print Window" link to send this page to your printer.

## Downloading

The Download Center tool (see also "[Understanding Map Results](#)" and "[Understanding Chart Results](#)") allows you to easily save the results of your work to your computer or an external storage medium.

Click on the "Close Window" link to close the print preview window.

Click on the "Print window" link to send this page to your printer.

The files you may download are as follows:

\*The data will be delivered in comma separated value (CSV) format, which can easily be opened with spreadsheet software such as Excel or Lotus 123 or with text files such as Notepad, or imported into database applications. The output data could look something like this:

Partner,1997,1998,1999,2000,2001,2002,2003

World

Total,687597998554,680474247508,692820620412,780418627647,731025906239,693257299708,723743176992

Canada,150124378414,154152161598,163912764357,176429631577,163724462420,160799213724,169480936587

Mexico,71378310439,79010087472,87044038183,111720877976,101509075013,97530612979,97457419506

Japan,65672594303,57887874651,57483534617,65254366373,57639072234,51439625159,52063765389

United Kingdom,36435090012,39070195147,38337792667,41579355714,40797923224,33253089971,33895378945

Germany,24466907426,26641871802,26788866756,29243960024,30113947792,26628437885,28847947632

China,12805416498,14257952774,13117677381,16253029349,19234827272,22052678839,28418493321

TradeStats Express provides statistics on U.S. merchandise trade only. Statistics on U.S. trade in services are not yet available.

Merchandise includes all tangible goods—e.g., manufactures, raw materials, and unprocessed agricultural commodities.

[U.S. Exports at State and Regional Levels](#)

[U.S. Exports at the National Level](#)

## U.S. Exports at State and Regional Levels

State export values available on this web page cover the years 1999 through 2002 and are tabulated on a NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) basis for broad product categories (3-digit level of detail). All figures are for total exports (domestic exports plus re-exports), reflect initial unrevised data, and are on a Free Alongside Ship value basis. (For definitions of technical terms and other information on U.S. trade data, visit <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/guide/>).

All state export statistics are drawn from the Origin of Movement (OM) series compiled by the Foreign Trade Division of the U.S. Census Bureau. The OM data supplant the Exporter Location (EL) state export statistics used earlier in TradeStats Express. The EL series, which credited exports to states based on the location of the exporter of record, has been discontinued by the Census Bureau due to recent data collection anomalies. Thus all state data disseminated by Census and featured on this website will be exclusively on an OM basis. For a more complete explanation of the Census Bureau decision to terminate the EL series, visit <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/Press-Release/notice.html>.

The OM series is based on a totally different methodology from that of the EL series and measures an entirely different dimension of exporting activity. Consequently, OM numbers cannot be linked with historical EL numbers to arrive at a meaningful time series. For details on differences between the OM and EL figures, visit <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/aip/elom.html#om>.

The OM series was originally designed to measure the transportation origin of exports, as an aid to transportation planners and marketers. The series credits export merchandise to the state where the goods began their final journey to the port (or other point) of exit from the United States, as specified on official U.S. export declarations filed by shippers. The OM can be either the location of the factory where the export item was produced or, in many cases, the location of a distributor, warehouse, or cargo processing facility.

Since the place from which merchandise began its export journey is not necessarily the place where the merchandise was produced, the OM series does not furnish reliable data on the production origin of U. S. exports. As a result, OM data also cannot be used to estimate the number of jobs in each state that is supported by exports. (For information on state-level export-supported jobs, visit <http://www.ita.doc.gov/td/industry/otea/jobs.html>).

The OM series, although best suited for planning transportation facilities and marketing transportation services, is the only data series currently published by Census that credits merchandise exports to specific states and, as such, provides the most accurate available information on state export patterns and trends.

OM data cover exports of goods only. There are no comparable statistics for state exports of services, or state imports of services or goods. Consequently, it is not currently possible to calculate trade balances for individual states, for either goods or services.

The Census Bureau does make available merchandise export and import figures for Customs Districts, which are typically regions surrounding major ports and other transit points. These numbers measure the amount of goods entering and leaving a port, and they can be useful when planning port facilities. However, Customs District trade figures are compiled on a basis totally different from that of the state-level OM export series. Consequently, the two series should not be used together in an effort to estimate state trade balances.

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## **U.S. Exports at the National Level**

All trade data available on TradeStats Express were generated from the Trade Policy Information System (TPIS), which is operated by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Office of Trade Industry Information. TPIS is an interagency database and retrieval system that provides statistical support for U.S. international trade negotiations.

All data files produced by TPIS are compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce, which are produced by the Foreign Trade Division (FTD) of the Bureau of the Census. Technical questions regarding the content, collection, and tabulation of U.S. foreign trade data should be directed to the FTD at 301-763-INFO or <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www>. Many common questions regarding U.S. trade data are addressed in the FTD's Guide to Foreign Trade Statistics, which can be accessed at <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/guide/>.

Export statistics available on TradeStats Express include both domestic and foreign exports reported on a Free Alongside Ship value basis, as compiled from the FTD's EM545 monthly DVD. Domestic exports are goods produced in the United States. Foreign exports are re-shipments, i.e., goods exported from the United States that originated abroad.

Import statistics are for General Imports, Customs Value. General Imports include both imports for U.S. consumption and imports destined for bonded warehouses or Foreign Trade Zones under U.S. Customs custody. Import data are compiled from the Census Bureau's IM145 monthly DVD.

U.S. trade balances reported on this site are calculated by subtracting U.S. General Imports (Customs) from U.S. exports (FAS).



All trade statistics are derived from data reported on a statistical month basis and are unrevised. The data do not contain either errata corrections or timing adjustments.

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## Glossary

**HS** "Harmonized System" or "Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System," developed by the World Customs Organization. 177+ economies use the HS as a basis for their customs tariffs and for the collection of international trade statistics. Over 98% of the merchandise in international trade is classified by HS. The United States maintains two classifications systems based on HS: Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Annotated (HTSUSA) for imports, and Schedule B for exports. These are the only commodity classification codes recorded in traders' declarations. Thus statistics in HS terms are the only ones tabulated directly; other systems are cross-classified based on HS. HS is the preferred classification system for data when fine detail is needed, when the analysis is related to trade law and trade policy, or when international comparability is required.

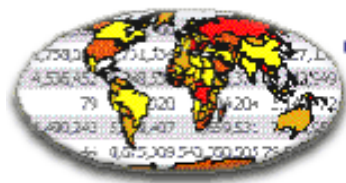
**NAICS** North American Industry Classification System, developed by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, along with other federal agencies and the governments of Canada and Mexico. NAICS is the present standard industry classification underlying a variety of U.S. government statistics. More information is available from the NAICS Association. NAICS is the preferred classification system for data when comparability with U.S. industry statistics, such as employment or manufacturers' shipments, is an objective.

**SITC** Standard International Trade Classification, now in Revision 3, developed by the United Nations. It predates the Harmonized System, and at the time of its development (in the early years of the UN) was an important tool in advancing international comparability of trade data. SITC is an appropriate classification system for data when international comparability is required, especially for long time series.

## Contact us

[Click here](#) to send questions or comments about TSE data.

[Click here](#) to send questions or comments about TSE functions.



# TradeStats Express™ Help System

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## Overview

[Overview](#)[Working with Maps](#)[Map Data Options](#)[Custom Map Ranges](#)[Understanding Map Results](#)[Navigating the Map](#)[Working with Charts](#)[Chart Data Options](#)[Understanding Chart Results](#)[Printing](#)[Downloading](#)[Data Notes](#)[Glossary](#)[Contact Us](#)

TradeStats Express displays the latest annual U.S. merchandise trade statistics —

- At national and state levels.
- In maps, graphs, and tables.
- As exports, imports, and trade balances.
- Custom-tailored to your year and dollar ranges and display preferences.

It is divided into two main sections: National Trade Data and State Export Data. For each section, the basic tools (for example, choosing product classifications, downloading the data, seeing a print preview) are the same. The links at left will help you use these tools.

The **National Trade Data** are available as full year totals for 1989 through 2004 and Year-To-Current-Quarter for 2004 and 2005. "Year-To-Current-Quarter" is defined as January 1 through the last day of the most recent quarter in the system. ( March 31, June 30, September 30 or December 31 for the specified year). Data are available for individual countries, trade/economic groups, or geographic regions. You can tabulate these statistics using any of three product classification systems: HS (at two- and four-digit levels), NAICS (up to the four-digit level), or SITC (up to the three-digit level). You can choose to display the data for exports, imports, or balance of trade.

The National Trade Data section offers two options:

- Global Patterns of U.S. Merchandise Trade, which displays (1) a world map showing export patterns from the U.S. and (2) a table sortable by trade partner or by individual year data.
- Product Profiles of U.S. Merchandise Trade with a Selected Market, which displays (1) a chart showing major U.S. exports to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exported product or by individual year data.

The **State Export Data** are available as full year totals for 1999 through 2004 and Year-To-Current-Quarter for 2004 and 2005. "Year-To-Current-Quarter" is defined as January 1 through the last day of the most recent quarter in the system. ( March 31, June 30, September 30 or December 31 for the specified year). Data are available for individual states or U.S. regions. Products are classified in industry groups corresponding to NAICS two-digit codes.

State Export Data section offers three options:

- Global Patterns of a State's Exports, which displays (1) a world map showing export patterns from a state or U.S. region and (2) a table sortable by trade partner or by individual year data.
- State-by-State Exports to a Selected Market, which displays (1) a U.S. map showing states exporting a product to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exporting state or by individual year data.
- Export Product Profile to a Selected Market, which displays (1) a pie chart showing major exports from a state to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exported product or by individual year data.

## Overview

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- Product Profiles of U.S. Merchandise Trade with a Selected Market, which displays (1) a chart showing major U.S. exports to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exported product or by individual year data.

The **State Export Data** are available as full year totals for 1999 through 2004 and Year-To-Current-Quarter

for 2004 and 2005. "Year-To-Current-Quarter" is defined as January 1 through the last day of the most recent quarter in the system. ( March 31, June 30, September 30 or December 31 for the specified year). Data are available for individual states or U.S. regions. Products are classified in industry groups corresponding to NAICS two-digit codes.

State Export Data section offers three options:

- Global Patterns of a State's Exports, which displays (1) a world map showing export patterns from a state or U.S. region and (2) a table sortable by trade partner or by individual year data.
- State-by-State Exports to a Selected Market, which displays (1) a U.S. map showing states exporting a product to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exporting state or by individual year data.
- Export Product Profile to a Selected Market, which displays (1) a pie chart showing major exports from a state to a world market and (2) a table sortable by exported product or by individual year data.

## Working With Maps

### Data Maps

TSE uses maps to display data on exports from the U. S., individual states, and U.S. regions. You can customize your map display using a number of options:

- Exporting state or region, exported product, and trade partner (not all options are available for all maps; read more details in the help file "[Map Data Options](#)").
- Dollar amount, dollar change, or percent change.
- Data year or years. With dollar change or percent change options, you specify a range.
- Display style: Choose from two contrast levels, three color schemes, grayscale, or black and white.
- Number of data ranges.
- Details of a table showing all the data underlying the map.

When your map and table appear, you can:

- Change the display to show imports, exports, or balance of trade.
- Print or download the map, its legend, and the corresponding data table.
- Zoom in or out on the map, move the map around to display the desired region, and see country or state labels.
- Sort the data table on different years, and toggle between ascending and descending values.
- Submit a new data query.

Read more details in the help files "[Understanding Map Results](#)" and "[Navigating the Map](#)."

### Trade Partner Maps

In "Product Profiles of U.S. Merchandise Trade with a Selected Market," "[State] Export Product Profile to a Selected Market," and "State-by-State Exports to a



Selected Market," which allow you to specify an export market (one country, a geographic region, or a trade/economic region), you can also display a map and a list of the countries in a specific region using the "Locate Trade Partner" button. Once you have brought up the "Locate" window, you can use it to

- Display other countries or regions.
- Click on a country's name in the list to display a more detailed map of it and see a list of the trade and geographic regions that include it.

## Map Data Options

TSE uses maps to display data in these areas:

- Global Patterns of U.S. Merchandise Trade - exports from the U.S. as a whole
- Global Patterns of a State's Exports - exports from individual states, exports from U.S. regions
- State-by-State Exports to a Selected Market - exports from individual states

Depending on the map display you are working with, you can specify exporting state or region, exported product, trade partner, and data table display.

You can choose to display the data for exports, imports, or balance of trade. (You can toggle among the three of these once the map and data table are displayed.)

When working with state export data, you can choose a product from an aggregated list. When working with national trade data, you can select a product from one of three classification systems: HS (at two- and four-digit levels), NAICS (up to the four-digit level), or SITC (up to the three-digit level). See the [Glossary](#) for more details on these data series.

You can customize map displays using these menu options:

**Map Display**

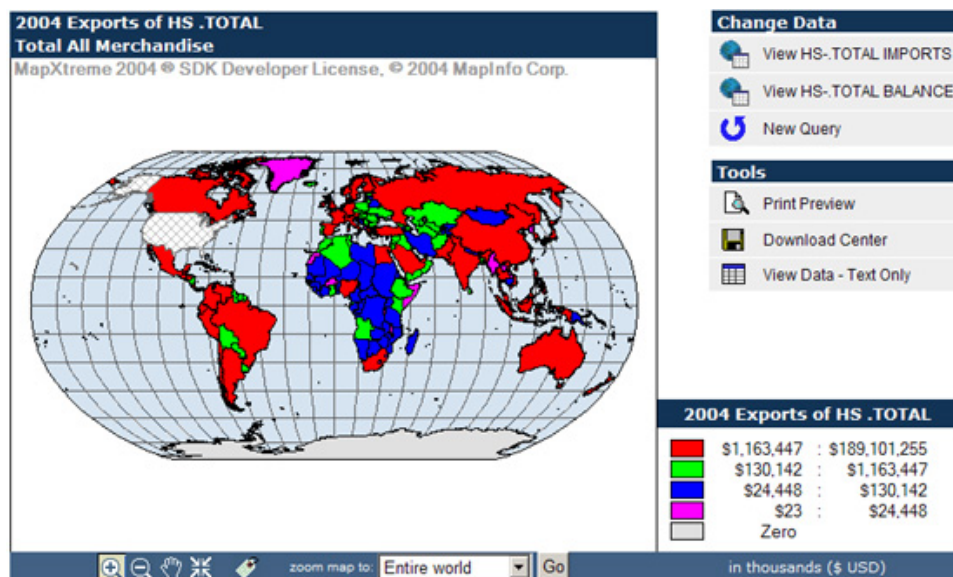
show:  for:

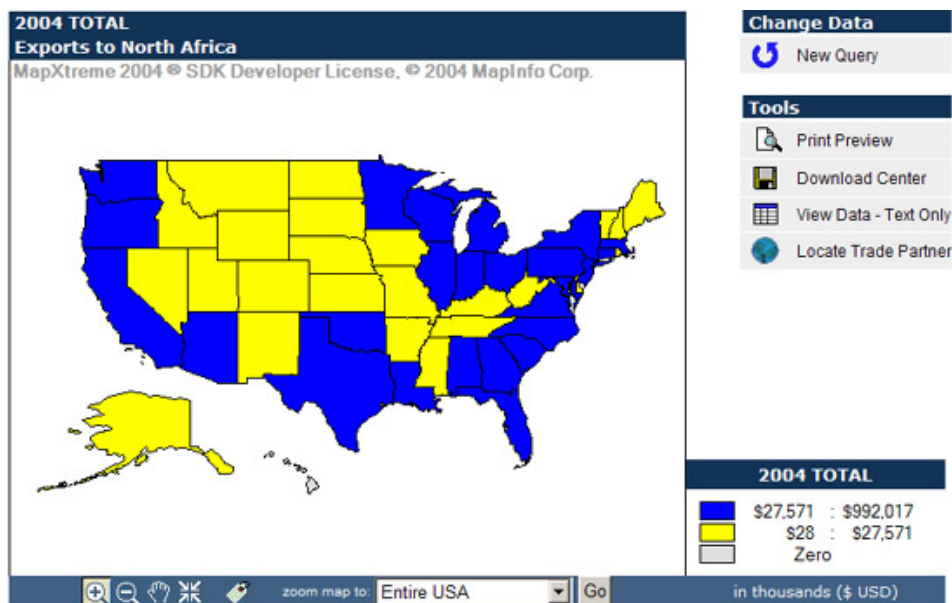
display style:

map & legend will have:  ranges

ranges to be computed: ☒ Automatically ☐ Custom...

- Dollar amount, dollar change, or percent change.
- Data year or years. With dollar change or percent change options, you specify a range.
- Display style: Choose from two contrast levels, three color schemes, grayscale, or black and white.
- Number of data ranges, from 3 to 10. One of the ranges will always be zero. If you select 5, for example, the data will be divided into four ranges plus zero, and the map and legend will display accordingly after you hit the "submit" button. In the samples below, the world map is sorted into 5 ranges, the U.S. map into 3.
- Ranges to be computed. Countries (or states) are divided into ranges, based on their associated data value. In the samples below, each range is shown with a unique color. Automatically computed ranges will be created by the TSE system. Using custom range computation will allow the user to set the minimum and maximum values associated with each range. (also see the help files "[Custom Map Ranges](#)").





You can customize the table display using these menu options:

- Years of data displayed.
- How the data are sorted; ascending or descending based on your chosen year. Once the map and table appear, you can re-sort on any year.
- How many records (i.e., products, countries, states, or regions) the table should display.
- Show quarterly data (quarterly data is only for current year to recent quarter versus the same time period of the year prior. In the sample below, the column titled "2005 thru June" is displaying data from January 1, 2005 through June 30, 2005)

When your map and table appear, you can:

- Change the display to show imports, exports, or balance of trade.
- Print or download the map, its legend, and the corresponding data table (also see the help files "[Printing](#)" and "[Downloading](#)").
- Zoom in or out on the map, move the map around to display the desired region, and show country or state labels.
- Sort the data table on different years, and toggle between ascending and descending values. (The sample below is sorted by 2003 value, descending, and in the real window could be scrolled down to see more countries.)
- Submit a new data query.

Exports of NAICS 3312 in thousands (\$ USD)							
Partner	2000	2001	2002	2003 ▾	2004	2004 thru June	2005 thru June
World Total	339,617	341,741	320,197	313,218	431,653	175,581	194,962
Canada	149,152	144,401	140,861	134,157	167,013	82,947	89,528
Mexico	73,088	80,838	84,552	80,693	70,923	35,632	36,260
United Kingdom	17,366	16,925	10,912	8,681	11,596	5,478	6,834
South Korea	1,627	2,202	4,353	8,390	9,922	4,432	2,501
Germany	6,012	7,803	6,554	8,253	7,054	3,203	5,266
Ireland	7,045	6,715	9,891	6,522	7,900	3,017	3,224
Hong Kong	4,549	7,054	4,762	6,179	8,764	5,158	2,702
Belgium	5,154	3,577	3,743	5,471	7,008	2,944	3,404
Brazil	6,000	6,000	4,000	4,000	8,000	3,000	3,000

Read more details in the help files "[Understanding Map Results](#)" and "[Navigating the Map.](#)"

## NOTES

1. Specific data are only available through the data tables. The maps are not interactive tools for retrieving information.
2. Maps show general groupings only. The legends will show the same number used as the lower end of one range and the upper end of the next highest range. Use the data tables to determine precise export values.

## Custom Map Ranges

TSE allows users to define their own map ranges when creating thematic maps. By choosing the "Custom..." option to compute ranges, a new pop-up window displays (shown below). You may add or delete ranges. You may not have fewer than 3 or more than 10 ranges.

Each range will display the

- range number
- minimum value for that range
- maximum value for that range
- count of records (countries or states) currently in that range
- the percent of all records represented by that range

A "Data Legend" table displays showing the high and low values for all data, as well as the total number of records.

The "Not found within range" row will show how many records are unassigned, or have not been placed into a range.

In the example below range 1 goes from 2,000 to 40,000. If you changed the Min value to 20,000 there is a chance that some data (whos values are between 0 and 2,000) are now not in any range. TSE will warn you of this, but let you proceed with those settings. On the map, those data will fall into an "All Others" range.

Be aware, this may be misleading to viewers of the map; a user may make an incorrect interpretation of the map because they did not realize that some countries/states fell into an "All Others" range.

Range	Min (\$)	Max (\$)	Count	Percent
0	40000	11681654.074	53	23%
1	2000	40000	46	20%
2	0	2000	11	5%
3	-500000	-100	57	25%
4	-161977969.484	-500000	61	27%
Not found within ranges			0	0%

Recalculate

Max: \$11,681,654.07  
Min: -\$161,977,969.48  
Count: 228

Cancel Save Ranges

Click the Save Ranges button to use these ranges in your map.

Click the Cancel button to return to the map input options, without applying the custom ranges.

## Understanding Map Results

Once you have selected all your map parameters (see the help file "[Map Data Options](#)" for more details) and hit "Submit," you'll get a [map display with legend](#), a [data table](#), and several sets of [tools](#).

### Map and Legend

The maps give a visual overview of trade, but they are not a precise breakdown, nor an interactive tool for retrieving information. A map will show ranges of export dollar values (or, with national data, import or trade balance dollar values) from the U.S. or a state/region to various world markets. Some maps will show the exports of a chosen product group. Depending on how many ranges you chose, the total exports will be broken up and displayed in a distinct series of colors or patterns. The legend shows how these are divided and displayed on the map.

One of the ranges is always zero, so that states, regions or markets without the relevant trade can be shown. Sometimes a map will show nothing in this range, though zero will still appear in the legend. NOTE: The legends will show the same number used as the lower end of one range and the upper end of the next highest range. Specific data are only available through the data tables.

You can zoom in or out on the map to see more detail (see "[Navigating the Map](#)").

### Data Table

The table displays the the dollar values for products, exporting states or trade partners for the years you specified. You can sort the data by any year, descending or ascending. These tables can be printed or downloaded using the Print Preview tool or the Download Center tool.

### Tools

The "Change Data" tools let you toggle between exports, imports, and balance of trade, and enable you

to start over with a new query.

The "Print Preview" tool lets you preview the map and legend or the data table, and then print them from your browser. See the help file "[Printing](#)" for more details.

The "Download Center" tool gives you options to save the map, its legend, or the data (in CSV format), or all three in a compressed file. See the help file "[Downloading](#)" for more details.

The "View Data - Text Only" tool lets you view the table data in a pop-up window, in a straight HTML table, with no coloring, scrolling, formatting, CSS or Javascript.

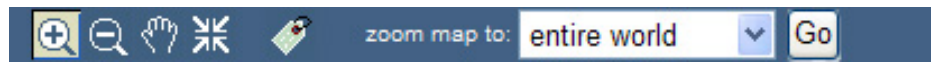





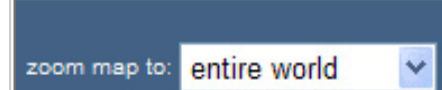
The map navigation tools let you work directly with the map (see the help file "[Navigating the Map](#)" for more details on this group of tools).



## Navigating the Map

Once you have created a map, you may need to navigate to get a better look at it.

Below the map is a toolbar which contains several tools that will help you work with the map.

 A horizontal toolbar with a dark blue background. It contains several icons: a magnifying glass with a plus sign, a magnifying glass with a minus sign, a hand cursor, a compass, and a location pin. To the right of these icons is a text input field labeled "zoom map to:" containing the text "entire world", a dropdown arrow, and a "Go" button.		
	Zoom In	Single click and map will recenter at point of click and display 1/2 the number of miles previously displayed. Click and drag to draw a box. When mouse button is released, map will redisplay showing contents of box.
	Zoom Out	Click and map will recenter at mouse click and display twice as many miles across.
	Reposition	Click and drag to move map. When button is released, map will redraw .
	Recenter	At click, map will recenter.
	Labels	At click, labels toggle on and off for countries, states, and bodies of water.
	Quick Zoom	Select an area and click "Go"button. Map will redraw centered on the chosen area.

## Working With Charts

TSE uses charts to display data on exports from the U. S., individual states, and U.S. regions. You can customize your chart display using a number of options:

- Exporting state or region, trade partner, and exported product (not all options are available for all charts; read more details in the help file "[Chart Data Options](#)").
- Data year.
- Display style..
- Details of a table showing all the data underlying the chart.

When your chart and table appear, you can:

- Change the display to show imports, exports, or balance of trade.
- Print or download the chart, its legend, and the corresponding data table.
- Sort the data table on different years, and toggle between ascending and descending values.
- Submit a new data query.

Read more details in the help file "[Understanding Chart Results](#)."

## Chart Data Options

TSE uses charts to display data in these areas:

- Export Product Profile to a Selected Market - exports from states or U.S. regions to a specified trade partner
- Product Profiles of U.S. Merchandise Trade with a Selected Market - exports of specified products from the U.S. as a whole to specified partners

When working with national data, you can choose to display the data for exports, imports, or balance of trade. (You can toggle among the three of these once the chart and data table are displayed.) You can also choose a product from one of three classification systems: HS (at two-digit level), NAICS (up to the three-digit level), or SITC (up to the two-digit level). See the [Glossary](#) for more details on these data series.

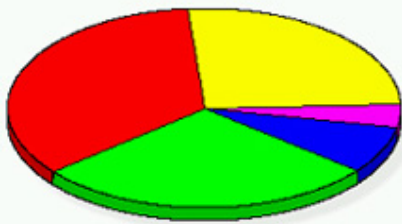
When working with state data, you can choose the exporting state or U.S. region.

Working with both national and state data, you can customize chart displays using these menu options:

<b>Trade Partner</b>	
<input type="radio"/> Individual countries	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Geographic regions	
<input type="radio"/> Trading & economic regions	
World <input style="float: right;" type="button" value="?"/>	
<b>Chart Display</b>	
chart year: 2004 <input type="button" value="v"/>	
display style: colors: normal contrast <input type="button" value="v"/>	
chart & legend will have at most: 5 <input type="button" value="v"/> wedges / bars	
<b>Table Display</b>	
display years: 1997 <input type="button" value="v"/> to: 2004 <input type="button" value="v"/>	
compute additional data: None <input type="button" value="v"/>	
sort by: 2004 <input type="button" value="v"/> descending <input type="button" value="v"/>	
display: all <input type="button" value="v"/> records	
<input type="checkbox"/> Display through latest quarter 2005	
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	

- Trade partner - a country, geographic region (such as Middle East, Caribbean), or a trade/ economic region (such as FTAA, EU).
- Data year (1999-2004 for state data; 1989-2004 for national data).
- Display style - Choose from two color schemes, grayscale, or black and white with patterns.
- Number of segments in which the total will be divided for display.

## 2003 Export from Alabama to Peru



Product	Value (\$)	Percent
Chemical Manufactures	3,697,114	34.6 %
Crop Production	3,009,653	29.2 %
Paper Products	810,011	7.6 %
Computers & Electronic Prod.	406,319	3.8 %
All Others	2,751,224	25.8 %
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10,674,321</b>	<b>100 %</b>

You can customize the table display using these menu options:

- Year of data displayed in the chart.
- An optional measure of dollar change or percentage change across a chosen range of years.
- How the data are sorted; ascending or descending based on your chosen year. Once the chart and table appear, you can re-sort on any year.
- How many records (i.e., products, countries, states, or regions) the table should display.
- Display year-to-current-quarter data for current year and same time period for prior year.

When your chart and table appear, you can:

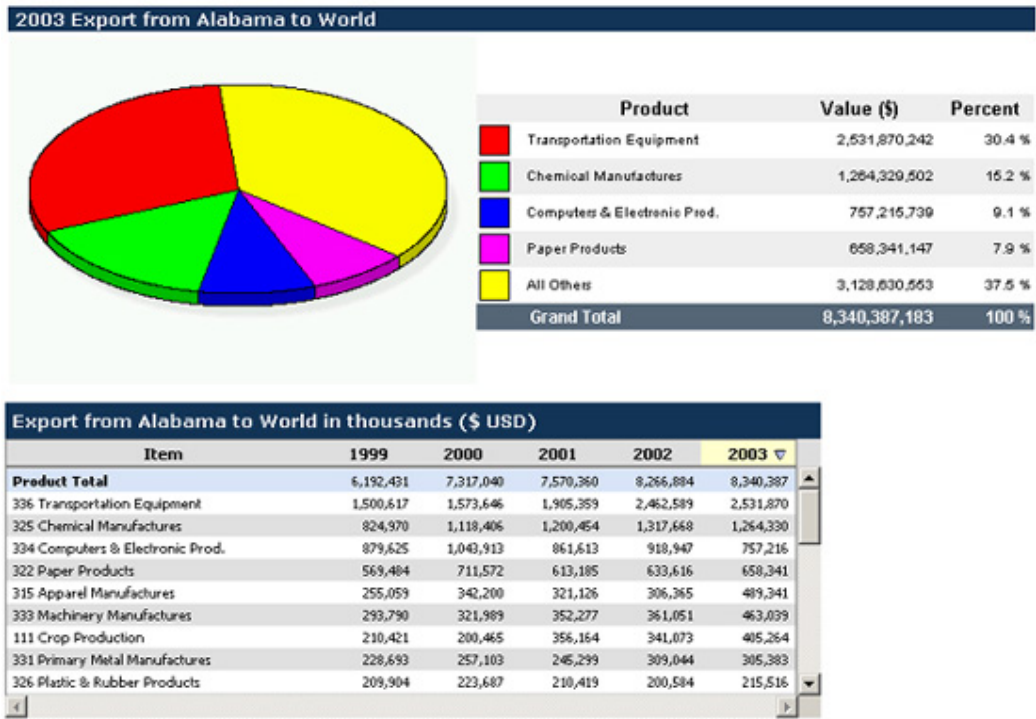
- For national data, change the display to show imports, exports, or balance of trade.
- Print or download the chart, its legend, and the corresponding data table (also see the help files "[Printing](#)" and "[Downloading](#)").
- Sort the data table on different years, and toggle between ascending and descending values. (The sample below is sorted by 2003 value, descending, and in the real window could be scrolled down to see more countries.)
- Submit a new data query.

NAICS 322 - PAPER - Imports from European Union 25 (EU 25) in thousands (\$ USD)				
Item	2001	2002	2003 ▾	2004
<b>Total</b>	226,546,645	232,643,340	253,029,476	282,560,178
3254--PHARMACEUTICALS & MEDICINES	26,264,898	32,315,095	38,397,249	41,574,063
3361--MOTOR VEHICLES	23,380,018	26,529,267	30,954,525	32,030,195
3364--AEROSPACE PRODUCTS & PARTS	17,974,704	14,237,010	11,700,665	11,982,676
3251--BASIC CHEMICALS	9,508,037	9,506,950	11,033,755	12,335,465
3345--NAVIGATIONAL/MEASURING/MEDICAL/CONTROL INSTRUMENT	7,426,923	8,000,106	9,395,974	10,883,331
3363--MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS	6,138,879	7,042,976	8,250,218	8,706,767
3339--OTHER GENERAL PURPOSE MACHINERY	7,775,491	7,263,614	8,244,808	9,768,936
9800--GOODS RET TO CA (EXP); US GOODS RET & REIMPS (IMP)	8,922,392	8,878,624	7,986,091	7,970,559
3399--MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED COMMODITIES	6,627,194	6,743,119	6,906,174	6,906,059

Read more details in the help file "[Understanding Chart Results.](#)"

# Understanding Chart Results

Once you have selected all your chart parameters (see the help file "[Chart Data Options](#)" for more details) and hit "Submit," you'll get a [chart display with legend](#), a [data table](#), and a set of [tools](#).



## Chart and Legend

The charts give a visual overview of trade, but they are not an interactive tool for retrieving information. A chart and its legend will show dollar values and percent of total for exports (or, with national data, imports or trade balance) of products.

For instance, in the example above, the chart shows that Alabama exported some \$8.3 billion in manufactured goods to the world in 2003. Transportation equipment accounted for \$2.5 billion of this, or 30.4%. The next three largest export categories for that year from Alabama are shown, and all other products accounted for 37.5%. If the user had specified more wedges (up to seven), more products' shares would be displayed. The data table will, however, show a further breakdown of products.

## Data Table

The table displays the the dollar values for products for the years you specified. It will also show the dollar change or percentage change for a year range if you have selected this additional computation. You can sort the data by any year, descending or ascending, or by the dollar or percentage change . These tables can be printed or downloaded using the Print Preview tool or the Download Center tool.

## Tools

The "Change Data" tools let you toggle between exports, imports, and balance of trade (national data only), and enable you to start over with a new query.

The "Print Preview" tool lets you preview the chart and its legend or the data table, and then print them from your browser. See the help file "[Printing](#)" for more details.

The "Download Center" tool gives you options to save the chart or the data (in CSV format), or both in a compressed file. See the help file "[Downloading](#)" for more details.

The "View Data - Text Only" tool lets you view the table data in a pop-up window, in a straight HTML table, with no coloring, scrolling, formatting, CSS or Javascript.

## Printing

The Print Preview tool (see also "[Understanding Map Results](#)" and "[Understanding Chart Results](#)") opens a new window that allows you to easily print the results of your work with TradeStats Express.

You can choose to view only the map/chart and its legend, only the data table, or everything. You can then print the display you have chosen.

Click on the "Close Window" link to close the print preview window.

Click on the "Print Window" link to send this page to your printer.

## Downloading

The Download Center tool (see also "[Understanding Map Results](#)" and "[Understanding Chart Results](#)") allows you to easily save the results of your work to your computer or an external storage medium.

Click on the "Close Window" link to close the print preview window.

Click on the "Print window" link to send this page to your printer.

The files you may download are as follows:

\*The data will be delivered in comma separated value (CSV) format, which can easily be opened with spreadsheet software such as Excel or Lotus 123 or with text files such as Notepad, or imported into database applications. The output data could look something like this:

Partner,1997,1998,1999,2000,2001,2002,2003

World

Total,687597998554,680474247508,692820620412,780418627647,731025906239,693257299708,723743176992  
Canada,150124378414,154152161598,163912764357,176429631577,163724462420,160799213724,169480936587  
Mexico,71378310439,79010087472,87044038183,111720877976,101509075013,97530612979,97457419506  
Japan,65672594303,57887874651,57483534617,65254366373,57639072234,51439625159,52063765389  
United Kingdom,36435090012,39070195147,38337792667,41579355714,40797923224,33253089971,33895378945  
Germany,24466907426,26641871802,26788866756,29243960024,30113947792,26628437885,28847947632  
China,12805416498,14257952774,13117677381,16253029349,19234827272,22052678839,28418493321

## Data Notes

TradeStats Express provides statistics on U.S. merchandise trade only. Statistics on U.S. trade in services are not yet available.

Merchandise includes all tangible goods—e.g., manufactures, raw materials, and unprocessed agricultural commodities.

[U.S. Exports at State and Regional Levels](#)

[U.S. Exports at the National Level](#)

### U.S. Exports at State and Regional Levels

State export values available on this web page cover the years 1999 through 2002 and are tabulated on a NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) basis for broad product categories (3-digit level of detail). All figures are for total exports (domestic exports plus re-exports), reflect initial unrevised data, and are on a Free Alongside Ship value basis. (For definitions of technical terms and other information on U.S. trade data, visit <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/guide/>).

All state export statistics are drawn from the Origin of Movement (OM) series compiled by the Foreign Trade Division of the U.S. Census Bureau. The OM data supplant the Exporter Location (EL) state export statistics used earlier in TradeStats Express. The EL series, which credited exports to states based on the location of the exporter of record, has been discontinued by the Census Bureau due to recent data collection anomalies. Thus all state data disseminated by Census and featured on this website will be exclusively on an OM basis. For a more complete explanation of the Census Bureau decision to terminate the EL series, visit <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/Press-Release/notice.html>.

The OM series is based on a totally different methodology from that of the EL series and measures an entirely different dimension of exporting activity.



Consequently, OM numbers cannot be linked with historical EL numbers to arrive at a meaningful time series. For details on differences between the OM and EL figures, visit <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/aip/elom.html#om>.

The OM series was originally designed to measure the transportation origin of exports, as an aid to transportation planners and marketers. The series credits export merchandise to the state where the goods began their final journey to the port (or other point) of exit from the United States, as specified on official U.S. export declarations filed by shippers. The OM can be either the location of the factory where the export item was produced or, in many cases, the location of a distributor, warehouse, or cargo processing facility.

Since the place from which merchandise began its export journey is not necessarily the place where the merchandise was produced, the OM series does not furnish reliable data on the production origin of U.S. exports. As a result, OM data also cannot be used to estimate the number of jobs in each state that is supported by exports. (For information on state-level export-supported jobs, visit <http://www.ita.doc.gov/td/industry/otea/jobs.html>).

The OM series, although best suited for planning transportation facilities and marketing transportation services, is the only data series currently published by Census that credits merchandise exports to specific states and, as such, provides the most accurate available information on state export patterns and trends.

OM data cover exports of goods only. There are no comparable statistics for state exports of services, or state imports of services or goods. Consequently, it is not currently possible to calculate trade balances for individual states, for either goods or services.

The Census Bureau does make available merchandise export and import figures for Customs Districts, which are typically regions surrounding major ports and other transit points. These numbers measure the amount of goods entering and leaving a port, and they can be useful when planning port facilities. However, Customs

District trade figures are compiled on a basis totally different from that of the state-level OM export series. Consequently, the two series should not be used together in an effort to estimate state trade balances.

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## **U.S. Exports at the National Level**

All trade data available on TradeStats Express were generated from the Trade Policy Information System (TPIS), which is operated by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Office of Trade Industry Information. TPIS is an interagency database and retrieval system that provides statistical support for U.S. international trade negotiations.

All data files produced by TPIS are compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce, which are produced by the Foreign Trade Division (FTD) of the Bureau of the Census. Technical questions regarding the content, collection, and tabulation of U.S. foreign trade data should be directed to the FTD at 301-763-INFO or <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www>. Many common questions regarding U.S. trade data are addressed in the FTD's Guide to Foreign Trade Statistics, which can be accessed at <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/guide/>.

Export statistics available on TradeStats Express include both domestic and foreign exports reported on a Free Alongside Ship value basis, as compiled from the FTD's EM545 monthly DVD. Domestic exports are goods produced in the United States. Foreign exports are re-shipments, i.e., goods exported from the United States that originated abroad.

Import statistics are for General Imports, Customs Value. General Imports include both imports for U.S. consumption and imports destined for bonded warehouses or Foreign Trade Zones under U.S. Customs custody. Import data are compiled from the Census Bureau's IM145 monthly DVD.

U.S. trade balances reported on this site are calculated by subtracting U.S. General Imports

(Customs) from U.S. exports (FAS).

All trade statistics are derived from data reported on a statistical month basis and are unrevised. The data do not contain either errata corrections or timing adjustments.

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## Glossary

**HS** "Harmonized System" or "Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System," developed by the World Customs Organization. 177+ economies use the HS as a basis for their customs tariffs and for the collection of international trade statistics. Over 98% of the merchandise in international trade is classified by HS. The United States maintains two classifications systems based on HS: Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Annotated (HTSUSA) for imports, and Schedule B for exports. These are the only commodity classification codes recorded in traders' declarations. Thus statistics in HS terms are the only ones tabulated directly; other systems are cross-classified based on HS. HS is the preferred classification system for data when fine detail is needed, when the analysis is related to trade law and trade policy, or when international comparability is required.

**NAICS** North American Industry Classification System, developed by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, along with other federal agencies and the governments of Canada and Mexico. NAICS is the present standard industry classification underlying a variety of U. S. government statistics. More information is available from the NAICS Association. NAICS is the preferred classification system for data when comparability with U.S. industry statistics, such as employment or manufacturers' shipments, is an objective.

## SITC

Standard International Trade Classification, now in Revision 3, developed by the United Nations, It predates the Harmonized System, and at the time of its development (in the early years of the UN) was an important tool in advancing international comparability of trade data. SITC is an appropriate classification system for data when international comparability is required, especially for long time series.

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